

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 1. This sheet, which includes Fig. 1, replaces the original sheet including Fig. 1.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1-6, 8-19, 21-24, and 26-41 will be pending upon entry of the present amendment. Claims 1, 4-5, 8-10, 18-19, 21-24, 27-30, and 34-36 are being amended. Claims 7, 20, and 25 are being canceled. Claims 38-41 are new. No new matter is being presented.

Drawings – Figure 1 has been amended to include an indication that it is “Prior Art” and 1 sheet of drawings is presented herewith for approval.

The applicants appreciate the indication that original claims 25 and 27-30 were directed to allowable subject matter. Accordingly, claim 1 is being amended to include the elements of original claim 25, including the elements of claims 7 and 20, from which claim 25 depended. Also, claims 27 and 30 are being placed in independent form. Claims 34, 35, and 36 are being amended to include structural language corresponding to the language of claims 25, 27, and 30, respectively. Claims 2-6, 8-19, 21-24, 26, and 32-33 depend on claim 1; claims 28-29 depend on claim 27, claim 31 depends on claim 30, claim 37 depends on claim 36, new claims 38-39 depend on claim 34, and new claims 40-41 depend on claim 35. Accordingly, all of the pending claims are directed to allowable subject matter.

Claim 21 was objected to for a minor informality. Claim 21 is being amended as suggested by the Examiner.

Claims 4-6 and 20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Claim 4 is being amended as suggested by the Examiner. Claim 1 is being amended to correct the indefiniteness of the language of claim 20. In particular, claim 1 recites that the picture statistics, rather than the picture characteristics, include the elements of original claim 20. Accordingly, amended claims 1 and 4-6 particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fees due by way of this Amendment, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-1090.

Application No. 10/801,983
Reply to Office Action dated August 22, 2007

All of the claims remaining in the application are now clearly allowable.
Favorable consideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
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Enclosure:
1 Sheet of Replacement Drawings (Figure 1)

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